

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 FEA-01

ACDA-07 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 (ISO) W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6823

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1512

FROM LOSDEL

FOR D/LOS, L, EB, EUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: COMMITTEE I, GROUP OF FIVE, APRIL 1, 1976

REF: USUN 1499

1. GROUP OF FIVE MET MORNING APRIL 1, 1976 TO
DISCUSS THE JAPANESE QUOTA SYSTEM REPORTED REFTEL.

2. JAPAN (SHIGETA) STATED JAPANESE QUOTA SYSTEM
AIMED AT ASSURING WIDER PARTICIPATION ONLY WHEN
AUTHORITY CONSIDERING COMPETING APPLICATIONS AND
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WOULD NOT APPLY IN ABSENCE OF COMPETING APPLICATIONS.

3. FRANCE (MARTIN-SANE) WANTS A QUOTA SYSTEM TO BECOME EFFECTIVE ONLY AFTER A SET NUMBER OF CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN AWARDED. UNDER FRENCH PROPOSAL ANY APPLICANT WHO HAS RECEIVED A CERTAIN PERCENT OF THE CONTRACTS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO ADVERTISE ANY NEW APPLICATION. JAPAN OPPOSED FRENCH PROPOSAL ON ADVERTISING OF APPLICATIONS.

4. USSR (KAZMIN) STATED ANY QUOTA SYSTEM PROPOSAL MUST SATISFY BASIC PRINCIPLES, 1) PROTECT SOVIET FUTURE INTERESTS IN DEEP-SEA MINING; 2) PREVENT MONOPOLY, 3) PROTECT ALL STATES RIGHTS WITH REGARD TO SEABED RESOURCES. USSR STATED IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO HAVE AN EQUAL QUOTA FOR ALL STATES IN ORDER TO MEET SOVIET OBJECTIVES. THIS REPRESENTS A CHANGE IN THE SOVIET POSITION.

5. AFTER CLOSE QUESTIONING BY US REP, SOVIETS INDICATED THEY DID NOT WANT TO BE FORCED TO KEEP UP WITH THE US IN SEABED MINING, LIKENING SUCH POTENTIAL COMPETITION TO QTE THE ARMS RACE UNQTE. USSR (YAKOVLEV) SEEMED TO BE SAYING THAT SOVIET DESIRE TO AVOID US DOMINATION IN THE SEABED IS A POLITICAL CONSIDERATION FOR SOVIETS.

6. US REP SUGGESTED SINCE THERE IS A DISPUTE IN THE GROUP OF 5 AS TO WHETHER THE NATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF ANY MEMBER OF THE GROUP WOULD BE HARMED BY UNRESTRAINED FAIR COMPETITION WE SHOULD APPROACH THE MATTER AS A FUTURE PROBLEM POSSIBLY TO BE DEALT WITH IN THE COUNCIL UNDER SOME SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS. UK (WOOD) PRIVATELY OFFERED TO DRAFT TREATY LANGUAGE FOR THE GROUP OF 5 IN ATTEMPT TO FIND A MIDDLE GROUND.

7. JAPAN AGREED TO REVISE HER PROPOSAL IN LIGHT OF GROUP OF FIVE COMMENTS. US AGREED TO PRESENT A PAPER ON QUANTITY OF POTENTIAL DEEP SEABED MINE SITES SINCE CONFLICTING INFORMATION ON THIS SUB-CONFIDENTIAL

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JECT APPEARS TO UNDERLIE THE DESIRE OF SOME MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF FIVE TO HAVE A QUOTA SYSTEM. SCRANTON

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